

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Draft Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load

**Comment On:** EPA-R03-OW-2010-0736-0001  
Clean Water Act Section 303(d): Notice for the Public Review of the Draft Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Chesapeake Bay

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## Submitter Information

**Organization:** Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

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## General Comment

The Chesapeake Bay needs your help. For more than 25 years, scientists have documented the damaging levels of pollution that drain into Bay rivers and streams, leaving many waters unfit for swimming or fishing and depleting once abundant shellfish populations.

The draft Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is a strong step in the right direction. It sets clear pollution limits, deadlines and consequences for failure that would ensure that the job gets done. It would allow states the flexibility to determine how best to achieve results, tap market efficiencies to save businesses and taxpayers money, and provide support and guidance to states and localities to help them make on-the-ground progress.

The Chesapeake Bay can't afford more excuses and delay. I urge you to finalize a strong, accountable final TMDL, and to continue working with the states to ensure that their plans will deliver much-needed results.